



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES GROUNDBREAKING AT WINKLER WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION

STREETMAN, TEXAS, February 9, 2006-- Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director, today attended a groundbreaking at Winkler Water Supply Corporation which received \$938,000 through the agency's Community Program's Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program. The funds will be used for plant site improvement, expansion, and distribution lines.

"The USDA Rural Development Water and Waste Disposal Programs target public health benefits and economic opportunities in America's rural communities," said Daniel. "Projects such as the one with Winkler Water Supply Corporation will help make the environment cleaner and protect the public health for local residents."

Carl Ward, President of Winkler Water Supply, commented, "We are immensely grateful to USDA Rural Development for this financial assistance which will insure we are able to meet the needs of current residents and the demands of new residents. In addition, we expect that the expansion of our system may serve as an impetus to new commercial development in our service area, leading to more local jobs."

In Fiscal Year 2005, \$80.7 million of loan and grant assistance was distributed throughout rural Texas to 315,249 households. USDA Rural Development's Water and Waste Disposal Program is designed to bring fresh, clean drinking water and sanitary, environmentally sound sewage facilities to rural America's 53 million residents. Loans and grants are available to rural communities with fewer than 10,000 residents. Public bodies, corporations operating on a non-profit basis, and Indian tribes, that are unable to obtain credit from other sources at reasonable rates and terms, are eligible for assistance.

USDA Rural Development was created in 1994 to serve Texas' more than 3.6 million rural residents. For further information regarding USDA Rural Development Programs, contact the Groesbeck Local Office at (254) 729-2310, Extension 4, or visit our website at <http://rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.



(Left to Right) Carl Ward, *President of Winkler WSC*, Louis Reininger, *USDA Rural Development RDM - Groesbeck*, Bob Gladney, *attorney*, Ray Moore with *Fontaine & Associates*, Doug Slagle, *Winkler WSC VP*, Robert Tyykila, *Winkler WSC Sec/Treas*, Bryan Daniel, *USDA Rural Development State Director*, Gail Green from the *office of John Cornyn*, John Smith, *USDA Rural Development Area 5 Director*, & Dub Mane from *Joe Barton's office*.

Committed to the future of rural communities.

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